IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of Conf. No.: **9943**

MARISSEN et al Atty. Ref.: 4662-210

Serial No. **10/586,972** Group: **3733**

Filed: September 8, 2006 Examiner: MERENE, Jan Christop L.

For: FIXING DEVICE FOR CLAMPING THE ENDS OF A SURGICAL CABLE USED

FOR FIXING BONE PARTS

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December 22, 2009

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action dated September 30, 2009, which set a nominal response due date of December 30, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as noted in the following sections.

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.121, each section of the subject Amendment (e.g., Claim Amendments, Specification Amendments, Drawing Amendments and Remarks) as may be appropriate to the issues raised in the Official Action to which this paper responds, begins on a separate page. Changes to the original text, claims and the like are shown by striking through language to be deleted and underlining of language to be added.